

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/709,989
Docket No.: 12960-US-PA

To the Drawings:

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.83(a), every feature as claimed in the claims should be shown in the drawings. Accordingly, Figs. 1 and 2 are so amended to show the first electrode pairs and the second electrode pairs (as shown in dash line) are disposed on the outer wall of the flat cavity of a cold cathode fluorescent flat lamp. Moreover, Figs. 1 and 2 are also amended to show electrical field lines emit from positive electrodes to negative electrodes, instead of from the positive electrodes to the positive electrodes or from the negative electrodes to negative electrodes.

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REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 13-16 are still pending of which the claims 1, 4 and 13 have been amended and the claims 5 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer in order to more explicitly describe the claimed invention. Support to the changes of claims can be found in the disclosure and drawings (Paragraphs 0036 and 0037; FIGS. 1-3). Specifically, as disclosed in Paragraph 0036, FIG. 1 is a **cross-sectional view** illustrating a cold cathode fluorescent **flat lamp** (CCFFL) (Emphasis added). Applicants submit that a flat lamp in the art has a flat cavity, and also as shown in FIG. 1, the cavity has a first substrate 112 and a second substrate 114 disposed opposite each other, both of which are much longer than the thickness of the cavity (side bar 116). Additionally, a supplement explanation has been added the paragraph [0037] in order to more clarify the arrangement of the first and the second electrode pairs which is inherent shown in the amended Figs 1 and 2. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims 1-4, 6-8 and 13-16 are respectfully requested.

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Discussion objection to the Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a).

In response thereto, applicants submitted amended Figs 1 and 2 with a legend of "Replacement Sheet." Accordingly, the amended Figs. 1 and 2 meet the requirement of 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they have shown the first electrode pairs and the second electrode pairs (as shown in dash line) are disposed on the outer wall of the flat cavity of a cold cathode fluorescent flat lamp.

Discussion of rejection to claims 4-5 under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

In response thereto, applicants have amended claim 4 and canceled claim 5. In the disclosure, Paragraph 0040 discloses "the light emitting mechanism generates a **first light emitting area** 140 between the first anode 120 and the first cathode 130 of each first electrode pair 108, and generates a **second light emitting area** 150 between the second anode 122 and the second cathode 132 of each second electrode pair 110 as shown in FIG. 1". Applicants submit that the first light emitting area and the second light emitting area are clearly defined in the disclosure (Paragraph 0040) and the drawings (FIG. 1). As such, claim 4 is submitted to be patentable over 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

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Discussion of rejection to claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1-3, 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nishiyama (US 6,331,064).

In response to the rejection to claims 1-3, 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nishiyama, Applicants have amended the claim 1 and hereby traverse the rejection and submit that claim 1-3, 6 and 7 are in allowable form.

With respect to claim 1, as currently amended, recites in parts: "[A] device of cold cathode fluorescent flat lamp (CCFFL), comprising: a **cavity with a plate shape**, comprising a **first inner wall and a second inner wall disposed opposite to the first inner wall**".

Applicants submit that such a cold cathode fluorescent flat lamp (CCFFL) as set forth in claim 1 is neither taught, disclosed, nor suggested by Nishiyama, or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination.

Nishiyama teaches "a back light unit comprises a lamp tube" (Column 2, line29). Applicants submit that the lamp tube reads on a cold cathode fluorescent **flat lamp** as set forth in claim 1 (Emphasis added), because the lamp tube is not flat shaped (FIGS. 14A-14C). Applicants further submit that such a lamp tube has round wall should not be construed as composed of a first inner wall and a second inner wall,

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because a board therebetween cannot be identified.

Moreover, from Figs 5 and 8A, in Nishiyama, the first electrode pairs and the second electrode pairs are integral to form a ring shape in order surround the lamp tube. However, in the present invention, the first electrode pairs are separated from the second electrode pairs, as claimed in the amended claim 1. In summary, Nishiyama fails to teach, suggest or disclose "a cavity with a plate shape, comprising a first inner wall and a second inner wall disposed opposite to the first inner wall," and "the first electrode pairs are separated from the second electrode pairs, "as claimed in the amended claim 1. In other words, the amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Nishiyama and thus patentable.

Regarding dependent claims 2, 3, 6 and 7, they should be patentable as a matter of law for the reason that they contain all limitations of their patentable base claim 1.

Discussion of rejection to claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yoo US 2003/0132711.

In response to the rejections to claims 13-16, Applicants have amended claim 13 and hereby otherwise traverse these rejections.

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With respect to claim 13, as currently amended, recites in part: "A device of cold cathode fluorescent flat lamp (CCFFL), comprising: ... **the first protrusions and the corresponding second protrusions are not aligned.**" (Emphasis added).

From FIGS 3 and 4, in Yoo, the connected line of the cathode protrusions 266b and anode protrusions 266a are perpendicular to the anode plate 260a and to cathode plate 260b, which means the cathode protrusions 266b and anode protrusions 266a are aligned. Moreover, in Yoo, flat type barrier ribs 300 are used to define a plurality of separated discharging channels in which the two electrodes are disposed on the upper and the lower of each of the discharging channel, respectively. However, in the present invention, there no such flat type barrier ribs 300 instead of a plurality of stripe electrodes disposed on the upper wall and lower wall of the flat lamp (i.e.CCFFL). Thus, Yoo fails to teach, disclose or suggest "a device of CCFFL, comprising: **"the first protrusions and the corresponding second protrusions are not aligned,"** (Emphasis added) as claimed in the amended claim 13 and expressively claim of "an integral discharging cavity." In other words, the amended claim 13 is not anticipated by Yoo and thus patentable.

Regarding dependent claims 14-16, they should be patentable as a matter of law for the reason that they contain all limitations of their patentable base claim 13.

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Discussion of rejection to claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishiyama in view of Yoo and further in view of Miyashita et al. (US 20050221857).

In response thereto, applicant submits that the claim 8 is a dependent claim, and thus should also be allowed as a matter of law for the reason it contain all limitations of its patentable base amended claim 1.

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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-4, 6-8 and 13-16 are in proper condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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